appoint an inquiry commission to go into the working to Coal India Limited specifically on the question of price rise;

(b) if so, what are the details of the representations received;

(c) whether Government have since examined various aspects of the representations; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof and reaction of Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGOUDAR): (a) to (d) Some associations|individuals have urged the Central Government not to allow an increase in coal prices as it would have adverse effect on country's economy. A few of them have also suggested appointment of an Enquiry Commission to investigate into the working of Coal India Limited.

The price of coal produced by Coal India Ltd. was last increased in January, 1989 based on the June, 1988 indices. Since then the cost of production of coal has gone up due to increase in the cost of various inputs. The Coal India Ltd. has requested the Central Government to update the price strictly in accordance with the recommendations of Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices (BICP).

At present there is no proposal to set up a Commission of Enquiry as suggested. However, Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices (BICP) has undertaken a comprehensive study of the coal industry with a view to recommend suitable prices and other policy measures for this industry.

Break down of Gas Turbines of D.E.S.U.

997. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 4 or 5 new gas turbines of D.E.S.U. have broken down leading to present power crisis in the capital and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) what corrective steps have been taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b) Out of the six Gas Turbines of the Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking, two units have been out of order for some time due to technical faults. DESU has already initiated action for the repairs and recommissioning of these units at the earliest. The outage of the two Gas Turbine Units has not led to any power crisis in the capital.

Oil and Gas exploration contracts

998. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the exploration contracts for oil and gas signed by Government during the current year; and

(b) what is the number of contracts likely to be signed in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b) Government has not signed any exploration contract for oil and gas during the current year.

Theft of power in Delhi

999. SHRI SARADA MOHANTY:
SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:
SHRI SOM PAL:
SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH:

Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY

SOURCES be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 982 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 29th July, 1991 and state:

(a) the number of times D.E.S.U. has jacked up electricity rates for various categories of consumers and what are the rates fixed for graded higher levy of electricity;

(b) whether any other charges are also imposed on the consumers; and

(c) if so, the details thereof for the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c) The earlier electricity tariff fixed by DESU in April, 1985 has been revised with effect from 1-3-1991. The revised tariff for different categories is given in Statement-I. [*See* Appendix CLX, Annexure No. 38] The details of the other charges imposed on the consumers for the last three years are given in Statement-II. [*See* Appendix CLX, Annexure No. 39]

Foreign Tourists in ITDC Hotels

1000. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been less occupancy of foreign tourists in ITDC hotels in country as compared to private sector hotels;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what remedial measures Government have taken or propose to take to attract foreign tourists in ITDC hotels?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) During 1990-91, both public and private sector hotels were adversely affected on account of various reasons which includes disturbed conditions in some parts of the country and the situation in Middle East culminating in the Gulf War.

(c) The efforts being made by the Government/ITDC to attract more foreign tourists inter-alia include effective publicity/promotion campaign projecting India as a multi-dimensional tourist destination, aggressive marketing and sales efforts, direct contact with major tour operator/Travel Agents to promote traffic to India and participation in International Tourism and Travel Marts.

वायुदूत में हुए घाटों के कारण

1001. **श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज :** क्या नागर विमानन और पर्यटन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार द्वारा वायुदूत के घाटे में चलने के कारणों की कोई जांच कराई गई है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस घाटे के मुख्य कारण क्या हैं; और

(ग) इस विमान सेवा को घाटे से उबारने के लिए सरकार द्वारा कौन से कदम उठाये जा रहे हैं ?

नागर विमानन और पर्यटन मंत्री (श्री माधव राव सिंधिया) : (क) और (ख) वायुदूत को घाटा होने के प्रमुख कारण हैं, कम दूरी के प्रचालन, पुराना और गैर-किफायती विमान-बेड़ा, अलाभकारी किराया ढांचा, नेटवर्क का अन्धाधुंध विस्तार, अत्यधिक जनशक्ति और वाणिज्यिक सोच-विचार की उपेक्षा।

(ग) घाटे को न्यूनतम करने की दृष्टि से, मार्ग नेटवर्क को युक्तिसंगत बनाया गया है और अनावश्यक खर्च को कम किया गया है। वायुदूत के भावी ढांचे के बारे में विभिन्न विकल्प सरकार के विचाराधीन हैं।